

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing collaborative browsing of a communications network that allows multiple users, each with a browser for browsing the network, jointly and generally simultaneously to access objects within the network, the method comprising:
 - associating a browser companion with each of multiple users' respective browsers;
 - generating multiple categories of information related to the object accessed via a first user's browser;
 - transmitting the multiple categories of information related to the object accessed via the first user's browser to the first user and the other of multiple users; and
 - displaying the related-multiple categories of information related to the object accessed to (1) the first user and (2) the other of the multiple users via their respective ~~browsers or~~ associated browser companions.
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 in which the multiple categories of information comprise a category selected from the group consisting of one or more: (a) links by which the user can access via the browser or browser companion other information within the network related to the object; (b) communities; and (c) products.
3. (Original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of managing the first user's administrative rights to control or participate in a collaborative browsing session of the Internet with other of the multiple users.
4. (Original) A method according to claim 3 in which the managing step comprises providing the browser companion with an applet adapted to communicate with a first server that manages the collaborative browsing session.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 3 in which the first server is adapted to update the browser companions of users participating in the collaborative browsing session with information concerning the designated leader, participants, invited users, kicked users, super users, or creators of the collaborative browsing session.
6. (Original) A method according to claim 1 in which the generating step comprises:
 - forwarding to a Web server a descriptor of the object or action taken by the user to access the object; and
 - comparing the descriptor with a database storing (a) a plurality of different descriptors and (b) the information related to such a descriptor.

7. (Currently Amended) A system for allowing multiple users generally simultaneously to access objects hosted by a remote server over a network, the system comprising:
 - an interface for coupling with a first browser, wherein the interface and first browser are loaded on a computer or microprocessor that is coupled to the network;
 - a server that (1) receives from the interface the address of a first portion of the computer network the first browser accesses, (2) communicates information to the interface, and (3) generates multiple data categories related to the received address and; (4) communicates the generated multiple data categories to the interface and one or more browser companions associated with a browser other than the first browser.
 - a display for showing information received at the interface, wherein the information comprises data associated with the first portion of the computer network; and
 - a user interface for allowing a first user to enter commands for transmission to the server, wherein at least one of the commands comprises a command to initiate a session in which the interface causes at least a ~~second browser~~ browser companion to display to a second user information associated with the first user's actions.
8. (Original) A system according to claim 7 further comprising a session server adapted to manage a collaborative browsing session between at least the first and second users.
9. (Original) A system according to claim 8 in which the session server tracks the administrative privileged of the users participating in the collaborative browsing session.

10. (Currently Amended) A system for improving a group of users's Internet surfing experience comprising:

- a computer, associated with at least one of the users and having a first browser for viewing the world wide Web;
- a second browser coupled to the computer and adapted to communicate with a computer network comprising at least one server that supports the second browser, whereby the second browser is adapted to provide the server with tracking information concerning the object being displayed by the first browser; and
- wherein the server, upon receipt of the tracking information, generates a list of multiple data categories related to the displayed object ~~related information~~ for delivery to the ~~first~~ or second browser for display to ~~the~~ a first user of the group of users and one or more other users in the group, other than the first user.

11. (Original) A system according to claim 10 in which the tracking information comprises the user's URL and the server accesses a database of URLs or indicia representing URLs in order to draw from the database information the list.

12. (Original) A system according to claim 10 in which the second browser is adapted to allow users to post information to a Web page being viewed by a particular user.

13. -25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A system for providing collaborative browsing of a communications network that allows multiple users, each with a browser for browsing the network, jointly and generally simultaneously to access objects within the network, the system comprising a server for generating multiple categories of information related to the object accessed via a first user's browser and for communicating multiple categories of information to ~~the a first user's browser companion and~~ one or more of the multiple users other than the first user via a ~~browser or~~ browser companion.
27. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 26, in which the multiple categories of information comprise a category selected from the group consisting of one or more: (a) links by which the user can access via the browser or browser companion other information within the network related to the object; (b) communities; and (c) products.
28. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 26, and further comprising a distribution server for providing a browser companion.
29. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 28 ~~26~~, in which the browser companion can manage the first user's administrative rights to control or participate in a collaborative browsing session of the Internet with other of the multiple users.
30. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 29, in which the browser companion is comprised of an applet adapted to communicate with a first server that manages the collaborative browsing session.
31. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 27 wherein the server comprises a distribution server for providing a browser companion.
32. (Previously Presented) One or more computer readable media storing instructions that upon execution by a computer to cause the computer to perform the method of claim 1.
33. (Previously Presented) One or more computer readable media storing instructions that upon execution by a computer to cause the computer to perform the method of claim 2.

34. (Previously Presented) One or more computer readable media storing instructions that upon execution by a computer to cause the computer to perform the method of claim 3.
35. (Previously Presented) One or more computer readable media storing instructions that upon execution by a computer to cause the computer to perform the method of claim 4.
36. (Previously Presented) One or more computer readable media storing instructions that upon execution by a computer to cause the computer to perform the method of claim 5.
37. (Previously Presented) One or more computer readable media storing instructions that upon execution by a computer to cause the computer to perform the method of claim 6.
38. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the multiple categories of information can be selected from the group consisting of: links related to the accessed object, message boards regarding the accessed object, notes regarding the accessed object, commerce related to the accessed object, an internet relay chat related to the accessed object, a bulletin board related to the accessed object, a newsgroup related to the accessed object, a co-browsing link related to the accessed object, and combinations thereof.